



U.S. Department of Justice

Environment and Natural Resources Division

90-11-3-608A

Environmental Enforcement Section
P.O. Box 7611
Washington, D.C. 20044-7611

Tel: (202) 514-4051
Fax: (202) 616-6584

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Joseph G. Nassif, Esq.
Louis F. Bonacorsi, Esq.
Coburn & Croft
Suite 2900
One Mercantile Center
St. Louis, MO 63101
FAX (314) 621-2989

Edward C. Fitzhenry, Jr.
Lueders, Robertson and Konzen
P.O. Box 735
1939 Delmar Avenue
Granite City, Illinois 62040
FAX (618) 876-4534

Re: United States v. NL Industries, Inc., et al.
Civ. Action No: 91-578-JLF
DOJ No: 90-11-3-608A

VIA FACSIMILE and U.S. POSTAL SERVICE

Dear Counsel:

Today you should be receiving, via Federal Express, a copy of U.S. EPA's Decision Document/Explanation of Significant Differences ("DD/ESD") for the NL Industries/Taracorp Superfund Site. Along with the DD/ESD we have sent a copy of the United States' request to the Court for a case status conference and briefing schedule to address the Phase I issues. The primary purpose of our request for a status conference is to address the conduct of remedial activities with the parties and the Court during the pendency of the briefing proposed in our schedule.

U.S. EPA would like to proceed with residential soil remediation at a limited number of homes at this time and then re-commence residential soil remediation in the late Winter, early Spring of 1996. U.S. EPA proposes to proceed with remediation of certain identified residential properties in which children reside, all of which contain lead in soil at levels which we believe there is truly no dispute. Further, the

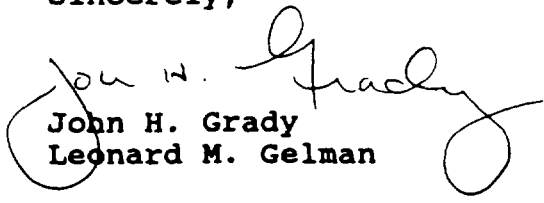
EPA Region 5 Records Ctr.
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residents of these homes with children have requested and consented to the soil remediation activities.

We will attempt to contact you today to discuss this matter and answer any other questions you may have.

Please feel free to contact Lee Gelman or myself if you have any questions or comments.

Sincerely,


John H. Grady
Leonard M. Gelman

cc: Sean Mulroney, Ass't Reg. Counsel, U.S. EPA
All Counsel of Record